

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A linear luminous body comprising:

a light source;

a light source accommodating portion in which the light  
5 source is accommodated; and

a light guide held by the light source accommodating  
portion so as to extend from the light source accommodating  
portion;

wherein a light emitted from the light source is introduced  
10 into said light guide through an end surface of said light guide.

2. A linear luminous body according to Claim 1, wherein said  
light source is provided with an LED.

15 3. A linear luminous body according to Claim 1, wherein a  
plurality of light sources are provided at ends of said light  
guide, respectively, so that light emitted by the plurality  
of light sources is introduced into said light guide through  
respective end surfaces of said light guide.

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4. A linear luminous body according to claim 1, further  
comprising a linear core made of a member selected from the  
group consisting of a metal, an alloy and a synthetic fiber,  
so that a side circumferential surface of said linear core is  
25 covered with the light guide.

5. A linear luminous body according to Claim 4, wherein said linear core has a multi-core structure.

5 6. A linear luminous body according to Claim 4, wherein said light source is provided with a plurality of LEDs which are disposed so that a distance between each LED and a center axis of said linear core is substantially equalized while a distance between two adjacent LEDs is substantially equalized with  
10 respect to said plurality of LEDs.

7. A linear luminous body according to Claim 5, wherein said linear core is disposed so as to form a center axis of said linear luminous body.

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8. A linear luminous body according to Claim 5, further comprising a light-reflective layer formed on said side circumferential surface of said linear core.

20 9. A linear luminous body according to Claim 8, wherein said light-reflective layer is made of white paint.

10. A linear luminous body according to Claim 8, wherein said light-reflective layer is made of a metal thin film.

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11. A linear decorative body comprising:

a linear core made of a member selected from the group consisting of a metal, an alloy and a synthetic fiber; and

5 a light guide with which a side circumferential surface of said linear core is covered and which has end surfaces serving as light introducing surfaces.

12. A linear luminous structure comprising:

a plurality of light sources;

10 at least one of light source accommodating portion in each of which at least one of the plurality light sources is accommodated; and

a plurality of light guides held by the light source accommodating portions so as to extend from the light source  
15 accommodating portions;

wherein a light emitted from the light sources is introduced into said light guides through at least one end surface of each light guide, and

the light guides are connected to one another through  
20 the light source accommodating portions.

13. A linear luminous structure according to Claim 12, wherein an LED is used as said light source.

25 14. A linear luminous structure according to Claim 12, wherein

two of said light source accommodating portions are connected to opposite ends of one of said light guides to thereby introduce light into said light guide through said opposite ends of said light guide.

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15. A linear luminous structure according to claim 12, wherein at least one connector each of which includes at least two connection portions for holding the light guides and a body portion that constitutes said light source accommodating portion in which at least one of the light sources corresponding to a number of said connection portions are accommodated, whereby the connector connects at least two light guides to one another.

16. A linear luminous structure according to Claim 15, wherein said connection portions of one of said connectors are disposed at vectorial angles different from one another.

17. A linear luminous structure according to Claim 15, wherein a pull-off prevention portion is provided at end portions of said connection portion, and said pull-off prevention portion includes a stopper fixed to the body portion, and a piston ring for holding said light guide; and when said piston ring is pressed into said stopper, a diameter of said stopper is enlarged to thereby disengage said stopper from said light guide.

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18. A linear luminous structure according to Claim 12, further comprising a plurality of connectors and at least one junction block having connector attachment surfaces,

wherein each of the plurality of connectors is provided  
5 with one connection portion for holding the light guide and a body portion in which the light source is accommodated as the light source accommodating portion, and

the connectors are fixed to the joint block at the connector attachment surfaces, so that at least two light guides  
10 are connected to one another.

19. A linear luminous structure according to Claim 18, wherein an engagement projection is provided on the connector and an attachment recess is provided on each of the connector attachment  
15 surfaces, and

the engagement projection is inserted into the attachment recess so that the connector is fixed to the joint block.

20. A linear luminous structure according to Claim 19, wherein  
20 the engagement projection is formed across opposite side faces of the connector.

21. A linear luminous structure according to Claim 19, wherein the attachment recess is formed as a groove across opposite  
25 faces of the joint block.

22. A linear luminous structure according to Claim 18, wherein the connector attachment surfaces are disposed at vectorial angles different from one another.

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23. A linear luminous structure according to Claim 18, wherein a pull-off prevention portion is provided at end portions of said connection portion, and said pull-off prevention portion includes a stopper fixed to the body portion, and a piston ring  
10 for holding said light guide; and when said piston ring is pressed into said stopper, said piston ring is engaged with said stopper thereby disengage said stopper from said light guide.

24. A linear luminous structure according to Claim 18, wherein  
15 a plurality of the joint blocks are connected to one another by a coupling member.